

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 24. Concurrent resolution expressing congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state and urging the President to assert clearly United States opposition to such a unilateral declaration of statehood.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a concurrent resolution of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution concerning the 20th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

SUPPORT H.J. RES. 37, REQUIRING TWO-THIRDS VOTE IN CONGRESS FOR PASSAGE OF TAX INCREASES

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, the Federal Government will reach out its big hands and its sticky fingers and stick them into the pockets of every hard-working man and woman in this country.

Two days from today, April 15, Mr. Speaker, the tax man comes into every working family's home to collect his dues. Well, enough is enough.

That is why I am supporting H.J. Res. 37, which proposes an amendment to the Constitution and requires the House and the Senate to garner a two-thirds majority vote for passage of any legislation that will result in a tax increase.

At a time when the Republican Party is trying to whittle down the tax bite of the Federal Government, to ease the tax burdens on American families, the least we can do is enact common sense legislation to make it harder to raise taxes.

Taxes are currently too high, and now this country is starting to run a budget surplus. The last thing Congress should do is dig deeper into the pockets of hard-working taxpayers.

We should all support tax cuts, support a constitutional amendment that makes it more difficult to raise taxes, and by doing this we will be supporting America and its future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back any small change that may be left in our pockets.

CHINA SHOULD NOT BE ADMITTED TO WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, last year Members vowed that China would not violate any African trade program we passed. Well, guess what, reports

quote Chinese leaders as saying China will set up assembly plants in Africa with Chinese equipment, Chinese technology and, guess what, Chinese workers as well.

To further quote this madness, they said China is determined to circumvent any U.S. quotas on Chinese products.

Disgusting. And after all this, certain Members and certain individuals at the White House still want to admit China to the World Trade Organization. Beam me up. What is next here, a monument to Mao Tse-tung right in Washington?

I yield back a \$200 billion trade deficit that threatens every man, woman and child in America, as well as our national security.

VOLUNTEER MIAMI FAIR A SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, April 17, South Florida will once again become the center of opportunity as the second annual Volunteer Miami fair commences.

At Miami-Dade Community College's Wolfson Campus, hundreds of South Floridians will gather to demonstrate their commitment to their communities and their willingness to serve. At Volunteer Miami we will learn ways in which to utilize our talents and skills and focus our energy on promoting positive, effective change for South Florida.

Martin Luther King stated, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

In my district, the rewards reaped by volunteerism has been immeasurable.

I thank Dr. Eduardo Padron, David Lawrence and Valerie Taylor for making this service extravaganza possible, and I thank the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who know that, by sharing a little of their time, they can truly make a difference.

I hope that my congressional colleagues will be inspired to organize similar volunteer fairs in their districts to unleash the power behind volunteerism.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

(Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind the House that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The most recent data compiled by the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse shows now that more than 3 million cases of child abuse and neglect are reported annually. That num-

ber is shocking considering that child abuse is preventable.

Research shows substance abuse and the lack of parenting skills to be the main causes. We can respond by ensuring that alcohol and drug treatment programs and parenting classes are funded and accessible.

Of course, our strongest weapons are knowledge, awareness and compassion. Every responsible adult can help by learning more about the problem, by supporting parents and children at risk in their communities, and by reporting incidents of abuse.

A group of my constituents in Grand Island, Nebraska, has again this year made blue ribbons available to us to acknowledge Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is a small symbol of our commitment to fighting and ending the problem, and I hope all of my colleagues will wear theirs proudly.

AIR WAR IN YUGOSLAVIA NOT SUPPORTED BY AMERICAN PEOPLE, JUST LIBERAL MEDIA

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, last night the Fox Network reported costs of \$3 billion for the air war against Yugoslavia, and that was before it was reported that General Clark has now asked for several hundred more U.S. aircraft.

Yesterday, in The Washington Post, Columnist Robert Novak reported that we had bought Russia's neutrality with another \$4.6 billion IMF loan. We will spend many billions in addition more on ground troops and reconstruction costs after Milosevic comes down. All of this against a tiny country that was no threat whatsoever to us, and where we made things many times worse by our bombings.

Last week the largest talk radio program in Knoxville asked if we should send ground troops into Kosovo. Only one caller was in favor. Everyone else was strongly opposed.

Our very liberal national media is doing everything it possibly can to escalate this war, so the true story will probably never be adequately reported, and that is that this war is a great miscalculation being carried out at almost obscene expense to the American people.

TORNADO IN SOUTHWEST OHIO

(Mr. PORTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Friday a terrible tornado ripped through the heart of the district I represent in Southwest Ohio. Eight hundred homes were destroyed or damaged. The Cities of Blue Ash, Montgomery, and Loveland, Symmes, Sycamore and Deerfield Townships were the hardest